THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."—JAMES 2: 14, 17.

No. 37. Vol. LVI. Monday, September 10, 1894. Price One Penny.

DISCOURSE BY ELDER M. W. MERRILL.

THE following discourse on "Training of Young People," was delivered by Elder M. W. Merrill at the Sixty-fourth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Friday, April 6, 1894:—

I am pleased, my brethren and sisters, to be here this morning, and glad to see with us President Woodruff and so many of the council of the Apostles. The people who come from a distance to the conference have an anxiety to see and hear the Presidency of the Church, especially President Woodruff, who is so loved and honored by all the Latter-day Saints. This is the sixty-fourth annual conference of the Church. When the first was held the majority of us were in the spirit world. We had not been born. But in the providence of the Lord we are here and associated with this work which He has revealed and established through the medium of His appointed ones. We are very fortunate indeed to have a part in this glorious work of the Lord, and He has so arranged that none need walk in the dark, but that each member of the Church may have the light and inspiration and testimony of the Holy Spirit. Every member of the Church, according to my view, is entitled to an evidence of the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph, and it is within his reach to have a testimony relative to the Apostles and Prophets that direct the affairs of the Church now. Not that it is our right or prerogative to have revelation directing the affairs of the Church; but we may have the revelations of the Spirit of God for ourselves, that we may be firm and stand upon the rock, that when the winds come and the storms rage we may not be moved. We have seen occasionally unfortunate people that presumed to have revelations to direct other people. We have seen men rise up in the midst

of the people, having a feeling that they were important ones and had a right, in some instances, to direct the affairs of the Church. Sensible and thinking people will look upon that class with pity. The Lord has His work organized. He has His servants appointed to labor in the various callings of the Priesthood, and He has given minute directions how and upon whom the Priesthood shall be conferred. All the quorums have their presidencies, and the Lord has given these things in detail. I have thought sometimes that, as stakes and wards, we did not give this matter the consideration that was necessary. There are young men who have been born and reared in the Church, and of goodly parents, who seemingly have been neglected with regard to the callings in the priesthood. I believe that the Lord designed that the brethren should come up in their regular order in the ordinations of the priesthood; first, deacons; secondly, teachers; thirdly, priests; fourthly, elders, and so on.

Wherefore, from deacon to teacher, and from teacher to priest, and from priest to elder, severally as they are appointed, according to the covenants and commandments of the Church."—Doc. and Cov., Sec. 107: 63.

We have found sometimes young men coming into the Temple to receive their blessings who have never been ordained to the office of a deacon and have never had any experience in the callings of the lesser priesthood, and of necessity they then have to be ordained elders. I believe if this were properly considered by the stakes and wards in Zion, these young men would be brought into the quorums of the lesser priesthood in their youth; and as a rule they are willing, if there is some one to look after them and give them a little experience in their callings. We should give more attention to this, that our young men may grow up and become valiant in the testimony of the work of God. We read in the Book of Mormon of an incident that shonld be a lesson to us in this connection. The ancient inhabitants of this land at that time had frequent wars, and on one occasion two thousand young men took up arms in defense of their country. They were young men who had been taught, under the direction of their mothers, to believe in God, and they had mighty faith in Him; and when they went to battle they fought with miraculous strength, and so great was their faith in God that not one of them was slain. This faith had sprung up into their hearts as a result of their early training and education. This is a good example for us to follow. As parents, we have anxiety relative to our sons and daughters. We want to see them valiant in the works of God and full of faith. We want to see them willing when called upon to go on a mission to preach the Gospel, and we are very sorry if we hear them make any excuse. This being the case, it is important that we should consider the condition and circumstances of our children while they are under our care. When they go from us, we lose more or less of our influence over them; but while they are with us we should endeavor to teach them all along the line the principles of the Gospel, here a little and there a little, as their minds are capable of understanding the doctrines of the Church. When we fail to do this relative to our young people, we fail thus far to do our duty, and peradventure we may have sorrow and regret because of our negligence in teaching and instructing

as the Lord has directed we should do. The Lord has not been unmindful of this; for He has given us His word that "inasmuch as parents have children in Zion, or in any of her Stakes which are organized, that teach them not to understand the doctrine of repentance, faith in Christ the Son of the living God, and of baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands when eight years old, the sin be upon the heads of the parents."—Doc. and Cov., Sec. 68: 25. I know there is a feeling in the midst of our people (how extensive it is I do not know) to let children remain without baptism until they come to years of accountability when they can choose for themselves. The Lord says this is wrong. God has entrusted these children to us, and we are supposd to exercise control or jurisdiction over them and to teach them in all the ways of the Lord. I have frequently heard remarks of this kind, and I have thought that such parents have yet failed to receive the testimony of the Spirit of God relative to the divinity of this work, because if we have this testimony in our hearts, then oh! the anxiety we have that our offspring may be honorable men and women in the Church of Christ. I believe we are held responsible to a degree in regard to the training and educating the young people. I believe in some cases we are willing that they should go to excesses in amusements. We let them go to the extreme in many things that are not pleasant in the sight of the Lord.

Nowadays there seems to be a mania among the people for card-playing. We often see in the newspapers that So and So had a nice card party, and they tell of the different games played. Now, I do not know really that there is any particular wrong in the game of cards. I am not a judge in this matter, because I have never yet learned to distinguish one card from another. I am quite ignorant to talk about cards when I do not know anything about them, am I not? But I have had some experience in considering this matter and studying the results of this social game of card-playing. Perhaps it is not in the game itself, but in the fascination that results from it. People become fascinated with the game. I have known in my experience where young people would wake up in the night and get out of bed to have a game of cards. I believe that it leads to evil, and I do not think it a good thing for our people to indulge in to the excess that it has been, and is being, indulged in throughout the Church at the present time. We ought to exercise our judgment and consider the welfare of our children; for because of this some have turned out to be gamblers. We would not have to go far to find such cases. They have lost their faith, as well as their money, and many have died in disgrace. I am not prepared, my brethren and sisters, to condemn this amusement in toto; but I say where it goes to excess it is a bad thing. Where people sit up to unusual hours in the night to indulge in these games, I tell you it is a bad thing, because the wine and the beer have to be brought forward, that the players may be stimulated to continue the game, and whenever that occurs you may set it down that it is wrong. I believe we can run to excess in these amusements that the Lord has kindly permitted us to indulge in. We can go to excess in round-dancing, for instant. It is all right and proper for people to have social gatherings and amusements;

but let us see to it, my brethren and sisters, that we do not go to excess in these things. When we do, we grieve the Spirit of the Lord, and it will take its departure, "and when it is withdrawn, Amen to the priesthood, or the authority of that man. Behold! ere he is aware, he is left unto himself, to kick against the pricks; to persecute the Saints, and to fight against God."—Doc. and Cov., Sec. 121: 37, 38.

We should be considerate in these matters and look well after the welfare and the proper training of our children, because we want to see them honorable men and women in the earth. Our hearts are swelled with joy when they go abroad to preach the Gospel, and they write back and tell how prosperous they are and how the Lord has listened to their prayers. What a joy it brings to the soul of the father and mother and kindred! We ought to have an anxiety in this direction. Instead of feeling, when our sons are called to go abroad, "Oh! I don't know where to raise the means, nor how to send him," we ought to feel like making every effort to send our sons agreeable to the commandments of the Lord. I believe the great majority of the people do feel this way.

The Lord has called us to build up Zion and to establish His kingdom. He has called us to labor in the ministry. He did not call us here to aggrandize ourselves. Here we have veterans before us that have labored a lifetime to build up Zion. They have gone on missions, without food or raiment being left for their families; but God has sustained them. They have not labored for the wealth of this world; but they have labored for the salvation of the souls of men. Now God is honoring them; He is lifting them up before the Saints and the world, and giving them blessing and glory, and eventually will give them eternal lives. And this will be the case if we labor with all our might to sustain Zion and the work of God. I hope this may be our lot, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

DEATH OF ELDER JOHN MORGAN.

It is with feelings of deep sorrow that we make the announcement of the death of Elder John Morgan, of the Presiding Council of the Seventies. The sad news will come with great and sudden force upon the people, for notwithstanding the fact that Elder Morgan has been seriously ill for about five weeks past, his demise was unexpected until a very short time before it occurred. He was suffering from typhoid-malaria, which culminated in his death at 5:30 o'clock p.m., August 14, at Preston, Idaho. During his illness he received careful nursing and medical attention, but the body, worn by toil and anxiety, was overcome by the added burden of the disease which assailed it, and the spirit took its flight from mortality.

Elder Morgan was but five days over fifty-two years of age, having been born near Greensburgh, Decatur County, Indiana, August 8, 1842. His parents were Garrard Morgan and Eliza Ann Hamilton Morgan. During the war of the Rebellion, which broke out when he was eighteen years of age, he joined the Union army, and served with honor and distinction, participating in several of the most important battles. Coming to Utah at the close of the war, he soon was engaged as an instructor in the

University, when that institution was conducted in the Council House. Later he established the Morgan commercial college, on First South street, in the building now occupied by the Morgan hotel.

On November 26, 1867, he became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Some years afterward he responded to a call as a missionary to the Southern States, which position he filled with ability and zeal. He was next appointed to the presidency of the Southern States Mission, and in that capacity his devotion and energy in spreading the Gospel made for him a bright and lasting record. On the 7th of October, 1884, he was selected as one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies, in which position he labored with diligence and faithfulness up to the time of his being stricken down. He also has held other positions of importance in the community, having been a member of the Utah Legislature and speaker of its house of representatives.

Elder Morgan was a man of strict probity and honor. Possessed of keen intellectual power and marked personal courage, he was an able, fearless expounder of Gospel truths; expecially were these virtues exhibited during his long presidency of the Southern States Mission, at a time when in that section of country the feeling was high against the Latter-day Saints. His ministrations were attended with power, and to the last his energies were earnestly devoted to the cause of truth which he had espoused. He has done much traveling and preaching among the Saints during the closing years of his life. In his death a true and good man has been called away, and the hearts of all Israel will be bowed in sorrow with his family at the departure from our midst of a beloved servant of God.

The body will be brought from Idaho and placed to rest in the cemetery in Salt Lake City.—*Deseret News.*

THE EARTH REELING.

Some time ago the *Deseret News* published an observation made by one of its friends relating to an apparent irregularity in the relative positions of the earth and the sun, the heavenly luminary seemingly slowly receding toward the south. The subject seems now to be a matter of scientific inquiry. A Washington correspondent to an exchange states that observations will be made at Washington and at Manilla, in the Phillippine Islands, simultaneously, for the purpose of ascertaining what is the matter with the earth's axis. For some time past there has been a suspicion that the revolutions of our sphere have not been as regular as they used to be, and astronomers think it is high time to study the matter and find out the cause of it. An equatorial telescope has therefore been constructed and sent to Manilla and the sky will soon be searched from two almost directly opposite points of the globe. Should the variations already observed continue, it is thought that in the course of a certain period the changes on the earth will be such as to make present geographies entirely useless. The latitude of every place of the globe will be altered, continents will be submerged, and islands expand into continents; where now lie perpetual ice and snow, a tropical climate may obtain dominion, and vice versa.

Holy Writ teems with predictions to the effect that a time will come when everything shall be in commotion, and particularly definite are such allusions in the message held by the Latter-day Saints to be divinely inspired. "The earth shall tremble and reel to and fro;" "the sun shall hide his face;" "the heavens shall shake:" such statements are repeatedly made. If astronomers have really commenced to inquire into phenomena which are thought to indicate nothing less than a change of the earth's position relative to the plane of its orbit, it is pertinent to say that such expressions may ultimately be proved to be literal truths, without the slightest exaggeration for dramatic effects. It may possibly soon be ascertained that the earth is rolling on with accelerated speed towards a great and terrible cataclysm.

THE SLAYERS OF JOSEPH STANDING.

Elder George A. Smith, who recently returned home from a mission to the Southern States, was lately furnished by a Tennessee correspondent with some interesting information concerning the members of the Georgia mob that murdered Elder Joseph Standing. Elder Smith kindly permitted the *Deseret News* to make public use of it, and it is as follows:—

"Ben Clark resides in Georgia, and is poverty-stricken.

"John Forssett died a short time after the murder was committed.

"James Blair resides in Tennessee and is poverty-striken.

"Newton Nation lives in Arkansas; he has had all kinds of family troubles, and about the same trouble applies to his three brothers, Tom, William and Joe, except the latter, who has paid a small portion of his penalty by losing his eyesight. Joe Nation is supposed to be the one who did the fatal shooting.

"Mack McClure and Jeff Hunter, after absolutely failing to make a living at their once happy homes, were compelled to ride the 'blind baggage' to the West.

"Andrew Bradly and Jud and Dave Smith are living in Georgia. They are all homeless and make a living by doing odd jobs.

"This completes the twelve murderers."

FACTS AND EVENTS.

The packing-house employes at South Omaha, U. S. A., are out on a strike and are creating serious trouble, the property of the companies having to be protected by hundreds of deputy-marshals.

The total revenue in the postal and telegraph departments of England, for the past year was, according to a parliamentary paper, £13,314,085, and the total expenditure £10,511,476.

The farmers in Illinois, U. S. A., are not selling their last year's corn crop on the rise. Many are holding, believing that owing to the failure of the coming crop of the west and the drouth in Illinois corn will go still higher.

The United States Senate has passed the anti-anarchist bill. The bill declares that no alien anarchist shall be permitted to land at any port in the United States or be admitted into the United States. Any anarchist who makes a second attempt to land is liable to four years' imprisonment.

The republic of Hawaii has been formally recognized by the United States through the secretary of state. The republican form of government in Hawaii, was set up on the 4th of July. On the following day Minister Willis extended recognition, so far as it was within his power, to the new republic. Mr. Willis's action had been discussed, but no decision was reached until August 8, when Secretary Gresham, under the direction of the President, sent a formal note to the minister approving his course.

Deplorable accounts have been received of the condition of those districts in the island of Sicily which have been recently visited by earthquakes. The chief localities affected are Fleri, Pisaro, and Zerbati, in the province of Catania, where the few houses that remain standing have been rendered uninhabitable on account of the dangerous state of the walls. At Zerbati the church with its tower threatens to fall in at any moment. In the country districts surrounding these places many windmills have been destroyed, and a great number of the numerous cellars in which wine, the principal product of the country, is stored, have fallen in. Whole tracts of land covered by vineyards and other plantations have been rent open, and the highways are impassable. The condition of the inhabitants in that part of the island is distressing in the extreme. The damage to property is estimated at three million lire at least.

Some time ago a river in the Birch-Ganges valley undermined a large mountain to that extent that enormous masses of rock were precipitated into the river forming an immense dam across the valley. As the river now had no outlet it formed a large lake. The melting snows kept swelling the river until the lake covered an area of five miles in length and three quarters of a mile in width with a depth of eight hundred feet. It was now gradually approaching the top of the dam and an overflow was inevitable. The government fearing the worst consequences when such an enormous mass of water should rush down the valley, adopted measures to warn the inhabitants of their danger when the water should reach the top of the dam. Telegraph lines were put up to every point of danger, in all not less than one hundred and fifty-nine miles. Although the government went to this expense it was hard to convince the people that there was any danger. A telegram from there dated the 27th of August states that the water released by the bursting of the Gohna dam had swept away all the government buildings on the banks of the river. At Hurdwar a torrent of water six feet deep, rushed through the town, but there was no loss of life. All the buildings between Hurdwar and Gohna have been destroyed. The lake formed by the landslip is now empty.

The official report of the director of the mint to Secretary Carlisle for 1893, was published August 11, and gives some interesting figures on the gold and silver production of the United States. The total product of gold for 1893 is $35,955,000, as against $33,014,981 in 1892, and larger than any year since 1880. The gain of 1893 over the previous year is $2,940,019. California heads the list of gold producers with a credit of $12,080,000, which is $80,000 more than 1892. Colorado comes next with $7,527,000, as compared with $5,300,000 the preceding year. This is a gain of $2,227,000 over 1892—by far the largest increases shown by any state. The increases then go on in the following order: Montana $684,614, South Dakota $306,400, Oregon $245,300, and Utah $193,425—thus placing Utah Territory sixth on the list of those that have augmented their gold production during the past year. Next comes Arizona with an increase of $114,200, then Alaska, Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee, with a combined excess over 1892 of $97,865. Among the places which show a decrease in the gold mined are Nevada with a loss of $613,000, Idaho $74,464, New Mexico $36,900 and Michigan, and North Carolina, which raise the aggregate decrease to $928,785. In 1892, silver in the United States reached the highest record of production ever known, the total figuring up to 63,500,000 fine ounces. In 1893 there was a decrease of 3,500,000 ounces, the total product being 60,000,000 ounces. Nine states and territories show a decrease, and nine an increase. The aggregate decrease is 5,909,800 ounces, and the increase 2,409,800 ounces. The heaviest decrease is in Montana, which reported 2,132,400 ounces less than in 1893. Nevada falls back 893,200, Colorado 793,700, New Mexico 718,300, and Utah 294,500 ounces.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1894.

THE WAR IN COREA.

As the war in Corea between Japan and China is attracting universal attention, and its events are watched with anxious interest by all, not so much, perhaps, to learn which of the two contending powers will gain the supremacy in Corea—the apple of contention—as to see what influence this struggle will have upon the European nations, a few words on the situation may be of interest to our readers.

Corea forms a peninsula stretching some six hundred miles to the south between the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea. It is bounded on the north by the Chinese province Manchuria and by Russian Asia. Its total area is ninety thousand square miles, and it has a coast line of seventeen hundred and forty miles. It lies in the same latitude as Italy, but it has much colder winters—some of the rivers, for instance, remain frozen from three to five months in the year. Like Italy it is hemmed in by alpine ranges on the north which also send a chain of mountains to the south; this chain again divides, sending one spur to the southeast and one to the southwest. The land lying between these two terminal ranges is the richest and most fertile province in Corea. The population of Corea is variously estimated at from eight to ten million people, who are mainly of the Mongolian type, though some believe that there is also a Caucasian element in the stock. The earliest records of Corea go back to 1122 B.C., at which time some Chinese colonists brought over to Corea Chinese arts and politics. It has since that time kept itself pretty well secluded from the rest of the world.

During the sixteenth century the missionary De Cespedes entered Corea, and since 1777 other missionaries followed. In 1866 there was a rising of the natives, and thousands of the converts were murdered. The only three Catholics which were left had to flee for their lives. In 1876 a treaty was concluded between Corea and Japan. Since 1882 treaties have been made with China, the United States, and several European nations.

The government of Corea is an absolute monarchy. Caste is very strong. None but the nobles can hold even the smallest local office under the government, and these look on office-holding as their means of support. Public examinations are held annually in the presence of the king, but they are said to be a mere farce, as it is generally known before-hand who will get the coveted offices and even how much has been paid for them. Officers who receive places on such conditions know how to remunerate themselves by oppressing the poorer classes and squeezing from them their

hard-earned substance. There is no wealthy middle-class found in Corea. The inhuman cruelties of the king and the oppression and corruption of the officials have brought financial ruin and poverty upon the people and have brought the state to the brink of dissolution.

The people driven to despair by the wholesale corruption under which they are suffering have in many places revolted against the government, which has found itself unable to cope with the insurgents. China was therefore called upon to assist in quelling the revolt, and responded with alacrity to the request. Japan, fearing that China through this means would reduce Corea to a dependent state, claimed the right also to send troops to Corea. China objected to this and forbade Japan sending any forces into the peninsula. The Japanese government acted upon this as if it were an ultimatum and immediately landed an army of nearly ten thousand men in Corea and took possession of Seoul the capital. It has since increased its army to fifty thousand and is now fortifying the passes in the mountains between China and Corea to prevent the former from marching its troops into the latter country, and also to cut off the Chinese troops already there from the base of their supplies. It was to prevent China from sending more soldiers to Corea that the sinking of the Kowshing took place. This horrible affair does not place Japan in a very favorable light, and it has disappointed many of the admirers of that people, who looked upon the Japanese as having made as rapid progress in the spirit of civilization as they have done in its arts and sciences. This affair was really the beginning of hostilities though the declaration of war was not issued until a few days afterwards.

Is Japan justified in taking this step? is a question that is being discussed pro and con by the papers. Sir Edwin Arnold, in an article published in the *New Review*, praises Japan and casts all the blame of the misrule in Corea upon the emissaries of China, while the influence of Japan has been exerted for the bettering of the material interests of Corea. Herr Von Brandt, for many years, and until recently, German minister to the court at Pekin, accuses the Japanese representatives of having persistently sought to make capital out of the periodical revolts in Corea, in order to find a pretext for Japanese intervention, and on the other side he praises China for the wise course it has taken to avoid any complications.

China has for more than two hundreds years claimed a kind of suzerainty over Corea; but that this has not had much weight with the Coreans themselves is shown by the fact that Corea has time and time again been left to make its own treaties. In 1885, China recognized by treaty the equal rights of Japan in the peninsula. Sir Edwin Arnold says in regard to Japan: "Equal rights with China in Corea have practically existed from the time of the Shogun Heideyoshi, whose successful invasion in Corea in 1595, proves that Corea and Japan must continue to have interwoven destinies." The illustrious De Siebold in his "Voyage au Japon" says: "Corea is governed by a king whose title is king of Tsio-sien and who is sovereign in his country, although he is tributary to China and Japan."

Japan has far more subjects in Corea than China, and its commercial

relations with that country have reached much greater dimensions, consequently Japan feels that its interests would be greatly jeopardized in case China obtained a protectorate over Corea. The Japanese must have realized the great importance of having this question definitely settled before they resorted to such a daring act as to throw down the gauntlet to their collossal neighbor who counts a ten times more numerous population than does their country.

The relative chances of success in this war can not be gauged by the enormous difference in the numbers. Japan like England is an island kingdom. The sea forms her ramparts. The Chinese fleet numbers more and better iron-clads than the fleet of Japan while the latter has more and larger cruisers, better manned and having greater speed than those of the former. The discipline on board the Japanese warships is the same as that in the European navies, and judges say it is excellent. Japan has a much larger commercial fleet than China, and, in case of necessity, that might be pressed into service for transporting troops and war material.

Corea is almost as inaccessible as if it were an island. The northern part has no roads on which a wagon can travel; this will make it very difficult for China to march an army into Corea by way of Manchuria. The Chinese fleet seems to be mainly employed in guarding the coasts of China, while the Japanese fleet is master on the Yellow Sea, threatening even an attack upon Pekin, the capital of China. The Chinese fear this and are placing obstructions in the rivers, such as sub-marine mines and torpedoes, and yet, in spite of this, it is said that the Japanese have ascended some of the rivers and escaped unhurt. This has filled the Chinese with consternation, for they believe that this could not have been done except through information furnished by spies, and the consequence is that all foreigners are looked upon with suspicion.

As far as the "sinews of war" are concerned the Japanese have also the advantage; while China has been obliged to take up a loan in Germany, Japan has been able to take up a loan in its own country, besides having a large surplus in the treasury.

Li Hung Chang, the seventy-year-old viceroy of China, has made a call for five hundred thousand soldiers, and he will no doubt raise them, but to equip such an army will be the great difficulty which he will have to overcome. A short time ago there was a rumor afloat that he had lost the favor of the emperor and that he would be dismissed, but the storm seems to have blown over, though he is not left with as free hands as formerly. The nineteen-year-old emperor is said to take a great interest in military affairs, and often issues his own orders and instructions which must be obeyed even though they cross the plans laid by Li Hung Chang. "Two heads are better than one" may be a wise saying in common life but in the management of an army it is likely to lead to confusion.

To sum up the condition of the two powers: China has overwhelmingly the advantage in point of numbers, but is unwieldy and hardly prepared for war. Japan on the other hand is ready, has a well equipped army, and has possession of the most strategic points in Corea. There is therefore no immediate prospects of China defeating Japan, though the latter is re-

ported to have met with severe losses in the recent actions. Japan is small compared with China; but the nimble swordfish often stabs fatally the many times larger whale.

The war-cloud in the east may appear no larger than "a man's hand" to the European observer, but who can tell how soon it may assume the greatest dimensions and envelope all Europe in the horrors of war? Several of the great powers have important interests in the East. Exigencies may arise at any moment to compel them to take action. Russia, Germany, France and England have sent fleets to the Chinese waters to watch the interests of their subjects and perhaps to be ready to take a part. The continent of Europe is filled with military training camps, Germany itself being able to mobilize an army of two million and a half of men. To preserve the peace the great powers keep increasing their standing armies and preparing war material until the burdens are becoming almost as heavy and as unbearable as if actual war existed. The outlook for peace is not a cheerful one.

ELDER W. D. RENCHER who has just returned from a mission to Texas U. S. A., writes as follows to the *Deseret News*: "I enjoyed the spirit of my mission, and, with the exception of a brief spell of illness, had good health during my absence from home. During the last year of my labors I received and wrote about 450 letters, walked 2,147 miles, helped to hold eighty-one meetings and officiated or assisted in baptizing thirty-three souls. As my relatives, mother, a sister and three brothers were intending to start to return to Zion about the time of my release, I came by and have helped them out. We came by wagons, starting from Blanco, Texas, May 2, and reached here on July 11. The distance is nearly a thousand miles and has been a hard and toilsome journey. Most of the country traveled over was extremely dry and barren and much of the water was strongly impregnated with alkali or gypsum. In fording the Pecos River at Raswell, New Mexico, we had the misfortune to get our hack overturned and it and all its contents were lost. My brother Lee and I were in it at the time and we saved the horses with difficulty on account of the quicksand and mad current, and narrowly escaped drowning ourselves. The Lord has indeed blessed me through all my labors and travels. I rejoice in having been privileged to assist my mother and family back to Zion."

THE *Churchman*, (Episcopal), U. S. A., contains the following: "Intolerance, especially when it takes the form of persecution, is the product of two very mean vices, cowardice and idleness. Very few people who really believe in the inherent power of truth would ever be induced to resort to persecution, were it not for an intellectual idleness which shrinks from the toil of dealing with truth in its own way. Impatient believers wish to reach the place they are making for by some short cut; and it seems—and indeed it is—far easier to change the conduct of men by pains and penalties than to convince their understandings. But to convince the understanding is the precise end and aim of truth, and apart from that, the change of conduct is, so to speak, irrelevant. It is not by persecuting

one another, but by trying to understand one another, and by making the best of one another, that we can hope to come to Christian unity and the Christian life."

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the *Protestant Observer* from Marseilles as follows: "We should scarcely be able to believe the following if we had not seen it reported in the *Correspondance de Rome*, in the *Temoignage*, and in *L'Italia Evangelica*. The Pope blessed some umbrellas carried by the Spanish pilgrims. After the umbrellas they brought a goat, and a Bishop requested the 'Holy Father' to bless it, because its milk would be given to children who were ill. Then a large bull-dog was presented. 'This is too much,' said the Pope, smiling. The reply was that with his blessing the flocks would be well guarded, and have nothing to fear from the wolves, and that it would not then go mad; so the bull-dog carried away the pontifical benediction; and there is no need to add that the pilgrims departed well satisfied with the Pope and his multiplied blessings."

RELEASE.—Elder Thomas J. Page has been honorably released from his labors as Traveling Elder in the Birmingham Conference, to return home, September 6, 1894.

DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE.—District Meetings of the Newcastle Conference will be held at West Pelton Co-operative Hall, Pelton Lane Ends, near Chester Lee Street, Durham, September 23, 1894.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF JOHN LYMAN SMITH.

[CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 575.]

ON the 18th of January, 1849, we commenced moving our log cabins from the Fort to the lot apportioned us on the block west of the Temple block; and in two weeks we had our four cabins on their respective lots—chinked and plastered so that each was quite comfortable. Among us were no idlers. It made us busy to keep good fires, as the weather is very cold. On April 6, the nineteenth anniversary of the organization of the Church, a mail was sent to Winter Quarters and also to California.

On May 25 I received word that the Twelve had chosen myself and wife to accompany Addison Pratt and family with others upon a mission to the Society Islands; and to be prepared to start by the 1st of July. Accordingly I had all prepared and ready to start. On the 8th of June those called met and President Young informed them that owing to the amount of emigrants en route to California, it was thought best to recall the mission, and they were released accordingly.

In October I started back to meet Brother Geo. A. and company with a number of wagons and teams, and returned with them, all well and in excellent spirits, on the 27th.

In the pushing forward of our buildings in 1850 we found it very difficult to obtain practical workmen to put up fire places, chimneys, flues, etc. Accordingly I worked much at the business, learning all I could from our

best brick layers and masons, and soon found myself much employed in this line, which increased continually.

At a special conference held in September 1851, I was called to strengthen the settlements in Iron County, 200 miles south of Salt Lake City, and started on the 7th of October for Parowan with my wife and two daughters. We reached Parowan on the 26th, and I commenced work the next day repairing Brother A.'s saw mill. On November 2, I attended a meeting of the Saints, where a letter from President B. Young was read, appointing me to preside in Iron County in place of E. H. Graves as he had been chosen Iron County's representative to the legislature to meet at Salt Lake City during the winter. Being but a young and inexperienced man, I was considerably surprised, that when a vote of the people was called for not a dissenting voice was heard. Elders George A. Smith and E. H. Graves set me apart to preside, and I received much instruction from them with regard to directing affairs. With Brother Geo. A. I visited Cedar City and other small settlements. On the 7th of November Brother Geo. A. and E. H. Graves started for Salt Lake City. With several of the brethren I spent some days exploring the mountains for coal and saw timber, our exploration extending as far as the Sevier River.

One night while several of the brethren were engaged in prayer, the brethren asked me to tell of threatened danger. My eyes and mouth were opened simultaneously. I said: "Our first danger is in an unclosed fort wall; we have got to enclose every entrance within forty-eight hours or the Indians will be upon us." I sat down so exhaused that it was several minutes before I could speak again.

The morning after, at break of day, the alarm bell rang and men and teams with axes and arms wended speedily away to the hills for timber. In twenty-four hours every avenue to Parowan Fort was closed. Two days after this, Walker and his band of Indians, returning from California, came to our fort and demanded bread and meat in threatening manner. After a short consultation we told them to camp on a square north east of Parowan Fort, and we would prepare a feast and meet Walker and his braves in two hours. I called the brethren around and told them to go to their homes and bring each what bread and meat they had prepared and we would seat Walker and his braves at a table in one of my cabins and have a talk with them. I also instructed our men to arm themselves as best they could, covering all with a loose coat, so that we could use or show them at a word.

At the appointed time about twenty of our brethren, with about the same number of Walker's band, each of them with a long bow and arrow, came and I said to them: "We are your friends and are ready to divide with you, but will not be imposed upon; we are ready for you and we want you to keep your arrows out of your bows or else my braves will fire." Each man threw open his coat, showing that we were armed.

Chief Walker arose and said (John D. Lee acting as interpreter): "I am a great war chief and have a hundred or more braves. All are hungry and must eat and we want three beeves and three hundred pounds of flour, else we will fight you." He sat down. I then said: "I am also a big chief

and my braves are ready to fight for we will not be compelled to do wrong; eat with us and think it over." Some of them placed their arrows to their bows and drew them to their heads to show their strength. Walker spoke again and said: "We will eat with you and be friends for we see you do not sleep." We then opened a trade and bought buck skins of them, for which we exchanged flour and corn meal; also some beef. After they left for their camp, we sent them one beef steer and a sack of flour. In two days time they left us for the north, and Parowan from the prompt action of the brethren was saved without bloodshed.

We kept up constant night guard, and sent out companies several times in search of cattle strayed or stolen, and a time or two brought to camp some lone Indian found camped by the bones of a stolen cow or calf from which he had cut and jerked the meat and hidden it in the bushes near by.

On April 6, 1853, the corner-stones of the Temple were laid. The conference was largely attended and much enjoyed by every Latter-day Saint present. I had kept the record of the twelfth quorum of Seventies for some years, and made notes of their meetings. All of them that could be found met on the 17th of April at the house of President Samuel Mulliner, at which time some of the presidents of the first quorum were present. Hyrum Dayton demanded his position as senior president, to which he was appointed at the first organization in Nauvoo, 1844. President Mulliner said to the brethren: "I understand his demand is seconded." I rose to my feet and said: "If no one has a word to say, I will for one say I do not wish him to be my president, and will ask a recommend that I may join some other quorum." I sat down; as soon as the ice was broken, there were plenty who talked. As I sat bowed in spirit, my name was called as one of the presidents of the quorum and I was ordained as such under the hands of Jeter Clinton, S. Mulliner and J. G. Hovey, by unanimous vote of the quorum. Hyrum Dayton was disfellowshipped and was afterwards cut off the Church for incest.

During the spring and summer of 1853 I labored in company with Brother George A. in the Church Historian's office.

My mother was a very large and fleshy woman, weighing considerably over 200 pounds, and she being almost helpless I spent the most of January and February in 1854 in attending to, and caring for, her. She breathed her last on the 14th of February, 1854. She seemed to know all that passed around her, but had no power to acknowledge anything. A large assembly attended her funeral. The remains were deposited near the center of our block on one of Bro. George A.'s lots, where had previously been laid some of the family. My father failed gradually the most of the time; he continued giving blessings until a few days before he breathed his last. He knew and conversed with all in a perfectly rational manner. A few moments before his death he called for me and took my hand in his and whispered, "My work is done!" This occurred 20 minutes past 11 o'clock p.m., May 23, 1854. The assembly at his funeral was large and his remains were laid beside those of my mother.

[Brother Smith's concluding letter gives an account of his mission to Germany in 1855.]

UTAH NEWS.

(Summarized from Territorial papers.)

Erick Petersen, a citizen of Levan, was killed by lightning July 15.

A number of young men at Hooper, Weber County, propose starting a cannery for the canning of tomatoes.

Cal. Murdock, son of Jos. Murdock, was drowned while fishing in the Provo River near Charleston, Wasatch County.

Eastern capital is fast coming into the Territory, and inquiries regarding the outlook for investments are becoming frequent.

Three trappers who have been camping at Horse Lake, at the head of Beaver Fork of Logan Canyon, have succeeded in catching seven bears, and expect to catch several more, as they are quite numerous this year.

Arthur Pickering, of Salt Lake City, a fireman on the Rio Grande Western Railway, was killed in a wreck in Spanish Fork Canyon, August 7. Engineers Wilson Udnall and Dennis McGraw were seriously injured.

The United States Senate in executive session August 8, confirmed the following nominations:—To be Judges of Probate, Utah Territory: Wm. S. Willies, Noble Warrum, Jr., Achilles Perrin, John C. Lamar, J. C. Grant and James L. Bunting.

While Mrs. Stephen Hansen, of Pleasant Grove, was temporarily absent from the house August 2, her little eighteen-months-old boy accidentally fell into a tub of water and was drowned before any assistance came. When its mother arrived all efforts of resuscitation failed.

The committee on judiciary in the United States Congress has referred Mr. Rawlin's bill, looking to the restoration to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints of the real estate now in the hands of a receiver, to a sub-committee. It has been decided in the light of recent events that it would be better not to push the bill during the present session, but to delay it until the December term of Congress.

The Territory of Utah, as such, was not six months old when the Deseret Agriculture and Manufacturing Society was established by Governor Brigham Young. The charter of the society bears date of January 17, 1856, so that now it is in its thirty-ninth year. During the period of its existence it has given twenty exhibitions. That which will open in Salt Lake City on October 2 of this year, will be the twenty-first.

The Grant Soap Company of Salt Lake City has been awarded second prize at the Midwinter Fair at San Francisco for its display of laundry soap. The taking of the prize was a surprise to the company, from the fact that no special exhibit was made, and no showing presented in the hope of securing any prize at all. The exhibit consisted of the Temple and Territorial Fair building, reproduced in the Grant soap, and ten boxes of regular laundry soap. The whole was formed into a pyramid.

The condition of the fruit crop in Utah this year is reported as especially encouraging. The yield is very heavy, and the fruit of excellent quality. The crop of strawberries and other small fruits was unusually large, so that notwithstanding the fact that the railway strike cut off all importations for a time, the market was fairly well supplied with such fruits as could be raised here. Regarding the prospects for fruits that are now ripening the outlook is most satisfactory. All fruits are exceptionally free from worms.

Utah has triumphed over California sugar producers in their own field. The Utah Sugar works made an exhibit at the Midwinter Fair in San Francisco, and so did others. The Utah exhibit was not very large but was artistically arranged, and as the outcome shows was ahead of all others in quality. At the tests made for the best grades of beet sugar, the judges summed up and selected a sample that surpassed in quality all others. When the marking of this sample was examined it proved to be Utah beet sugar and it was therefore awarded first prize.